



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

*(July 1, 1939, to June 30, 1940)*

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1941.

### OVER 7-1/2 MILLION LICENSES PURCHASED BY SPORTSMEN IN 1939; NETS \$13,000,000

Sportsmen paid almost \$13,000,000 for more than 7,600,000 hunting licenses or combination hunting-fishing or hunting-trapping licenses in 1939, the latest year for which figures are available, according to a compilation by the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior. The compilation included hunting licenses alone in 21 States and, in the others, the fishing and trapping licenses that were combined with those for hunting.

As was true in 1938, the Big Five for 1939 was headed by Michigan, with 711,733 licenses issued. Pennsylvania was second with 661,330; New York, third with 591,946; Ohio, fourth with 521,963; and Indiana, fifth with 353,386.

Federal migratory bird stamps, commonly known as duck stamps, also were issued to 100,000 more sportsmen in the 1939 season, a total of 1,111,561 stamps being sold to hunters of migratory waterfowl.

The total paid for State licenses and Federal duck stamps was more than \$14,100,000.

The Federal stamps, at \$1 each, are required of all waterfowl hunters over 16 years old, in addition to State licenses. While issued for the fall hunting season, they remained on sale until June 30, 1940.

On the basis of license returns, officials of the Fish and Wildlife Service believe that the number of hunters has continued to increase. From 1935 to 1938 the increase was at the rate of half a million a year. The 1937 tabulation showed 6,860,000 licenses and the 1938 tabulation 7,524,000. In 1939, the total increased by 122,000.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: The following tabulation by States shows the number of resident and nonresident or alien licenses issued and the number of duck stamps sold for the 1939 season.

The figure in parenthesis after the name of each State indicates the ranking of the State on the basis of the total number of State licenses sold.

The figures marked "a" include combination hunting-fishing or hunting-trapping licenses.

The figures marked "b" include licenses for which no charge is made in Arizona, Connecticut, Idaho, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming; and the following special licenses required in addition to regular hunting licenses: Oklahoma - 256 to residents of Texas to hunt waterfowl on Red River; Oregon - 19,487 big game; Tennessee - 64 special wild boar and 250 special squirrel licenses; Virginia - 6,298 big game stamps and 13,569 special licenses to hunt and fish on national forests; Washington - 5,284 special elk licenses; West Virginia - 715 Ohio River licenses; Wyoming - 2,763 big game.

The figures marked "c" include \$1,369.40 realized through exchange of small game for big game licenses in Maine; and \$11,023.60 realized from 2,142 "Sportsmen Licenses" in Wisconsin, which are in the nature of a voluntary contribution to hunt, fish, and trap.

## HUNTING-LICENSE AND FEDERAL DUCK-STAMP RETURNS, 1939

State and Ranking	Resident Licenses	Non-Resident or alien licenses	Total	Money Returns	Federal Duck Stamps
Alabama (27)	113,253	573	113,826	\$169,468.00	5,833
Alaska (47)	10,475	183	10,658	25,137.00	2,761
Arizona (43)	33,816 a b	254 a	34,070	96,131.50	3,555
Arkansas (38)	52,846	1,686	54,532	99,752.40	14,401
California (8)	268,366	1,729	270,095	528,023.00	74,644
Colorado (14)	158,238 a	1,203	159,441	372,054.90	22,663
Connecticut (42)	34,749 a b	354 a	35,103	112,948.15	4,904
Delaware (46)	15,092 a	141 a	15,233	20,010.50	3,164
Florida (37)	56,247	825	57,072	136,420.00	13,009
Georgia (33)	77,883	1,037	78,920	138,732.75	2,569
Idaho (25)	103,919 a b	823 a	104,742	207,584.50	19,064
Illinois (6)	323,218	1,016	324,234	418,754.50	66,434
Indiana (5)	357,895 a	491 a	358,386	545,013.64	18,686
Iowa (12)	182,986 a	114	183,100	225,099.00	39,143
Kansas (31)	84,560	143	84,703	85,561.00	18,536
Kentucky (28)	95,699	268	95,967	91,048.05	4,564
Louisiana (27)	95,462	917	96,379	101,377.00	33,870
Maine (26)	92,850 a	5,189	98,039	174,805.90 c	8,349
Maryland (34)	75,793	1,256	77,049	137,302.55	8,993
Massachusetts (30)	85,406 a b	428 a	85,834	174,469.00	15,048
Michigan (1)	707,413	4,320	711,733	978,604.25	86,064
Minnesota (9)	246,524	333	246,857	229,364.10	120,034
Mississippi (21)	116,856	632	117,488	164,456.00	7,591
Missouri (11)	193,740 a	1,140 a	194,880	296,498.30	26,961
Montana (17)	131,998 a	422	132,420	236,071.00	24,836
Nebraska (18)	129,134 a	781	129,915	149,741.00	26,588
Nevada (48)	9,881	576	10,457	30,517.50	5,608
New Hampshire (35)	51,752 a	2,294 a	54,046	156,036.18	2,727
New Jersey (19)	128,074 a	1,164 a	129,238	297,978.00	16,936
New Mexico (44)	26,860 a	1,397 a	28,257	122,652.00	4,187
New York (3)	587,769 a	4,177 a	591,946	1,072,714.76	32,304
North Carolina (15)	151,448 a	2,117	153,565	271,623.00	8,564
North Dakota (41)	41,023	86	41,109	68,903.00	15,148
Ohio (4)	521,636 a	327 a	521,963	526,026.75	20,680
Oklahoma (24)	110,629 b	469 b	111,098	115,591.00	19,740
Oregon (23)	111,018 a b	688 b	111,706 b	358,288.50	26,774
Pennsylvania (2)	652,323	9,007	661,330	1,372,533.05	16,008
Rhode Island (49)	8,880 b	117	8,997	18,270.00	2,641
South Carolina (29)	91,471	3,273	94,744	169,246.00	3,634
South Dakota (35)	72,893	2,882	75,775	130,089.00	21,849
Tennessee (32)	84,041 a b	609	84,650	155,392.60	8,615
Texas (20)	123,355	570	123,925	240,748.76	63,460
Utah (36)	71,173 a	3,540 a	74,713	227,983.50	14,520
Vermont (40)	43,423 a	1,661 b	45,084	79,912.90	2,851
Virginia (13)	161,660 a b	2,435 a b	164,095	289,719.00	6,767
Washington (10)	215,602 a b	110 a b	215,712	533,250.00	50,796
West Virginia (16)	150,879 a	1,115 a b	151,994	319,146.00	1,037
Wisconsin (7)	293,632	468	294,100	395,536.60 c	84,075
Wyoming (45)	26,285 a b	728 a b	27,013	131,577.00	6,896
Total	7,580,125	66,068	7,646,193	\$12,998,163.09	1,111,561